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November 17, 2017

**VIA EMAIL AND HAND DELIVERY**

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire  
Chief Clerk & Administrator  
Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100  
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Request of the Office of Regulatory Staff for Rate Relief to South Carolina Electric & Gas Company's Rates Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-920 Docket No. 2017-305-E

Dear Ms. Boyd:

I submit this letter as intervenor in the above captioned matter. By copy of this letter, I am serving the same on the parties of record.

I join my request for rate relief with that presented in the ORS petition initiating PSC Docket No. 2017-305-E. With ORS, I request that SCE&G be required to suspend all revised rates collections from customers. I further ask that you rule in favor of their request that, depending on legislative and court actions, SCE&G be required to permanently cease collecting these rates and make restitution to customers for funds already paid under the revised rate proceedings.

The rates in question have been set under the terms of the Base Load Review Act (BLRA). Information available to me supports the September 26, 2017, Attorney General Opinion which argues that the BLRA is of questionable constitutionality. The BLRA contains provisions that can be predicted to produce results that are against the public interest and have in fact done so, contrary to the requirements of Section 1. Article IX of the South Carolina Constitution of 1895.

In support of that contention I submit two affidavits:

1. Appendix A: Affidavit by Sarah Leverette, an attorney who served as a member of the “West Committee.” That committee drafted the provision of the Constitution that addresses regulation of utilities (Art. IX, § 1): Ms. Leverette concurs with the September 26, 2017, Attorney General Opinion on the Base Load Review Act (BLRA), which argues that the BLRA violates the constitutional requirement in Art. IX, §1 that regulatory statutes and actions be “to the extent required by the public interests.”
2. Appendix B: Affidavit by Holley Hewitt Ulbrich, Ph.D., Alumni Distinguished Professor Emerita of Economics at Clemson University: Dr. Ulbrich states that the BLRA does not meet the risk allocation requirements of the “public interest” in utility regulation as it is generally understood in the field of economics. She further states that this defect in the law has led to predictable consequences that are against the interests of both ratepayers and the general public.

I note two examples of the damaging effects of SCE&G rates, on my own pocketbook and on the general public interest:

1. More than 18% of SCE&G rates are attributable to the cost of V. C. Summer construction. Those rates are exceptionally high.

A comparison of SCE&G and Duke Energy rates in South Carolina illustrates this. In 2017, the average residential electricity rate in Columbia, SC, in the SCE&G service area, is \$0.1364/kWh, which is 15.89% higher than the state average.<sup>1</sup> The average residential electricity rate in Clemson, SC, in the Duke Energy service area, is \$0.0984/kWh, which is 16.4% less than the South Carolina average.<sup>2</sup>

Driven heavily by the inclusion of high SCE&G rates, South Carolina has been rated #1 (highest) in monthly electricity cost in a study by consumer site WalletHub.<sup>3</sup>

2. South Carolina Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt has publicly stated that high energy costs are making it impossible to locate major manufacturing facilities (especially tire and auto manufacturers) in those areas of the state with the highest rates, citing specifically the example of Fairfield County, within the SCE&G service area and home to the V. C. Summer plant.<sup>4</sup>

In return for these very damaging economic consequences, we receive nothing.

I therefore ask that the Public Service Commission find for the ORS and rule to suspend and ultimately to permanently cease to collect revised rates and refund monies already received based on BLRA revised rates.

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<sup>1</sup> Electricity Local. <https://www.electricitylocal.com/states/south-carolina/columbia/>. Accessed 8 Nov 2017.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.electricitylocal.com/states/south-carolina/clemson/>. Accessed 8 Nov 2017.

<sup>3</sup> Bernardo, Richie. “2017s Most & Least Energy-Expensive States.” WalletHub, 12 Jul 2017. <https://wallethub.com/edu/energy-costs-by-state/4833/>

<sup>4</sup> Wren, David. “Power rate patchwork hurts some areas of South Carolina.” Post and Courier, 21 Aug. 2017, p. D6.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lynn S. Teague". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lynn" being more prominent.

Lynn S. Teague

Encl.

cc: Alexander G. Shissias (via email)  
Christopher S. McDonald (via email)  
Damon E. Xenopoulos (via email)  
Derrick Price Williamson (via email)  
Dino Teppara (via email)  
Elizabeth Jones (via email)  
Frank Knapp, Jr. (via email)  
Frank R. Ellerbe, III (via email)  
J. Blanding Holman, IV (via email)  
J. Emory Smith Jr. (via email)  
Jeffrey M. Nelson (via email)  
John B. Coffman (via email)  
John H. Tiencken, Jr. (via email)  
K. Chad Burgess (via email)  
Lara B. Brandfass (via email)  
Matthew W. Gissendanner (via email)  
Michael N. Couick (via email)  
Mitchell Willoughby (via email)  
Robert D. Cook (via email)  
Robert E Tyson Jr (via email)  
Robert Guild (via email)  
Scott Elliott (via email)  
Shannon Bowyer Hudson (via email)  
Stephanie U. (Roberts) Eaton (via email)  
Stephen Suggs (via email)